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INCREASING ACCESS TO BASIC EDUCATION AND GENDER EQUALITY - COMMUNITY-BASED EDUCATION (CBE)

September 2014 – September 2019
\$77 million

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has been helping the Afghan government to increase children's access to basic education since 2006. One of the ways in which USAID is helping bring education to children in remote areas is through Community-Based Education (CBE) activities implemented in partnership with UNICEF and the Afghan Ministry of Education. CBE is a proven means to reach children who are unable to attend formal schools due to insecurity, distance or other constraints.

USAID supports UNICEF to deliver community-based education to children in 13 provinces, utilizing a Ministry of Education approved curriculum. USAID also supports Accelerated Learning Centers, which are specifically designed for young women whose educational opportunities earlier in life were interrupted due to conflict, the distance to a formal school, a lack of female teachers, or a lack of learning materials and supplies.

ACTIVITIES

- Provide education to children and young women in remote areas, including providing teaching and learning materials and paying community-based teachers' salaries.
- At the provincial and district level the Ministry works with the new community-based teachers, providing mentorship, guidance, and support enabling them to become part of the formal education system.
- Field monitoring, including third-party monitoring by non-governmental organizations, ensures the accuracy of reporting in Ministry tracking systems.
- The Ministry of Education supports Community-Based Schools by providing the national curriculum and exams and conducting training for community based teachers.
- Routinely schedules events at the district and provincial levels promoting awareness for community-based education and community support for all children, particularly girls.
- Training provincial and district education officers and implementing partners on the Ministry's Community-based Education Policy.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Benefitted more than 45,000 out-of-school children and youth in 2015, 35 percent of which are girls.
- Established 912 new community-based education schools in 2015 in 13 provinces (Bamyan, Badghis, Daikundi, Ghor, Helmand, Kandahar, Patika, Paktya, Uruzgan, and Zabul) and 71 Accelerated Learning Centers in four provinces, Bamyan, Daijundi, Badghis and Ghor.
- Recruited more than 900 teachers, including 382 women.
- Mobilized 903 communities through development of school management shuras (consultation) in 13 provinces. As a result 651 members increased their awareness about their roles and responsibilities.
- Printed 3.5 million textbooks for middle/secondary school children across the country.
- Trained 120 Provincial and District Education Directorate Staff to implement Community-Based Education with an emphasis of girls' education and 70 School Management Committee members on involving school management and public in the education process.

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